

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement in the Office Action mailed October 6, 2004, the Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. The Examiner asserts that the application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species. Specifically, the Examiner contends that Claim 1, directed to the present invention of FIG. 6, forms a **first species** comprising each of the first and second side walls having lateral wall section which extend beyond the rear wall of the housing to define a flat planar surface for lying flush against the supporting member when the electronic housing is mounted thereon, the rear wall of the housing and extending lateral wall sections defining there between and with the supporting member a channel for routing electrical wires; Claims 2-13, directed to the present invention of FIGS. 1-5a, forms a **second species** comprising a plurality of connectors, each connector of the plurality of connectors being receivable in a corresponding one of the open slots, the connector being attached to the supporting structure to selectively secure the electronic housing thereto; Claims 14-16, directed to the present invention of FIGS. 1, 6 and 11, form a **third species** comprising the front wall of the electronic housing including a first front surface portion and a second front surface portion residing at an angle to the first front surface portion, and wherein the electronics housing further includes at least one coaxial connector mounted on the angled second front surface portion; and finally the Examiner further contends that Claim 17, directed to the present invention of FIGS. 1 and 6, forms a **fourth species** comprising an enclosure for receiving a plurality of electronics housings, the enclosure having at least one planar panel, the planar panel having a plurality of spaced apart openings formed through the thickness thereof, and a plurality of connectors being interchangeably receivable in a corresponding slot, each connector having a main connector body and a pin mounted on and extending therefrom, the pins being received in corresponding openings of the plurality of spaced-apart openings formed in the planar panel of the enclosure.

It is respectfully urged that the inventions defined by the claims in each group are so related that they should all be included in a single patent. This is evident by the fact that the

Examiner has not identified any differing classes or subclasses into which the present invention defined by the claims should be restricted. Furthermore, the invention defined by the claims of each of the alleged four species of claims relates to a signal management (SM) electronics housing forming or defining an enclosure for containing electronic circuitry, with the housing being mountable or attachable to a supporting member or structure or on a planar panel of the enclosure.

Specifically, Claim 1 recites that the electronics housing comprises each of the first and second lateral side walls having lateral wall sections which extend beyond the rear wall of the housing to define a flat planar surface for lying flush against the supporting member when the electronics housing is mounted therefrom.

Claim 2 recites that the electronics housing comprises a housing structure which defines an enclosure for containing therein electronic circuitry, the housing structure being mountable on a supporting structure, the housing structure having at least two opposite walls, each of the at least two opposite walls having formed therein at least one open slot.

Claim 14 recites that the electronics housing comprises the first side wall and second side wall of the housing forming an enclosure for electronic circuitry contained therein, the electronics housing being mountable on a supporting member, wherein the front wall of the electronics housing includes a first front surface portion and a second front surface portion residing at an angle to the first front surface portion.

Claim 17 recites that the electronics housing comprises at least one electronics housing for mounting in the enclosure on the planar panel thereof, the at least one electronics housing including a housing structure defining an interior space for containing therein electronic circuitry, the housing structure being mountable on the planar panel of the enclosure, the housing structure having at least two opposite walls.

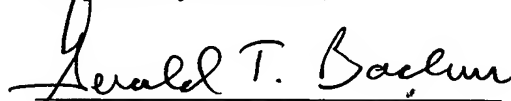
Thus, all of the species alleged by the Examiner are directed to the same subject matter. Accordingly, Claims 1-17 define subject matter which are so interrelated and specific to one another that they should be examined together and included in a single patent.

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Futhermore, it is respectfully urged that no additional search is required if the non-elected claims are examined with the elected claims.

In view of the foregoing remarks, withdrawal of the restriction requirement and consideration on the merits of Claims 1-17 or, if the restriction requirement is maintained, consideration of the provisionally elected Claims 2-13, is respectfully solicited. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.143, the Applicants are including an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement is traversed. Consequently, Claims 1 and 14-17 are herewith provisionally withdrawn from consideration if the Examiner maintains the restriction requirement.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gerald T. Bodner", written over a horizontal line.

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